

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-07

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ORM-02

IO-11 AF-06 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04

CEA-01 COME-00 AGR-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 FRB-03 MC-02 /134 W
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1638

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4406

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT EG

SUBJECT: PLATFORMS OF ASU ORGANIZATIONS

SUMMARY.. PLATFORMS OF THE THREE NEW ASU "ORGANIZATIONS" ARE BRIEF AND BREAK LITTLE IF ANY NEW GROUND. CENTRISTS MAKE GESTURES TOWARD REASSURING WORKERS AND PEASANTS THAT COST OF LIVING WILL BE TACKLED BUT ALSO FIRMLY REITERATE OPEN DOOR POLICY. RIGHTISTS ENDEAVOR BE RIGHT OF CENTER BUT NOT TOO FAR, AND LEFTISTS EMPHASIZE SOCIALISM AND TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIPS WITH EAST AS WELL AS WEST. END SUMMARY.

1. PLATFORMS OF ASU'S THREE POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS WERE ANNOUNCED AT END MARCH. THEY CONTAIN FEW SURPRISES:

A. ARAB SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION (CENTER). PLATFORM PAYS LIP SERVICE TO SUCH OLD CHESTNUTS AS PRINCIPLES OF JULY 23 AND MAY 14 REVOLUTIONS, LIBERATION ARAB TERRITORIES, PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, ARAB UNITY, CONDEMNATION CLASS DISTINCTION AND IMPERIALISM. LIBERAL SADATIST TOUCHES INCLUDE BELIEF IN FREEDOM OF CRITICISM FRFREEDOM OF PRESS, END OF NATIONALIZATION, ECONOMIC OPEN DOOR IS
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NATIONAL NECESSITY, AND EGYPT SHOULD HAVE

BALANCED RELATIONS WITH THE TWO SUPER POWERS.
PLANKS ON PUBLIC SECTOR ARE AMBIGUOUS (SEPTTEL).
MOST INTERESTING
OF ALL PLANKS IS STATEMENT THAT ISLAMIC LAW IS
"THE BASIC SOURCE" FOR LEGISLATION. GOE HAS
APPARENTLY CAVED ON THIS ISSUE, SINCE LIBERALS AND
GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS HAVE BEEN FERVENTLY FIGHTING
IN ASSEMBLY AND PRESS TO MAINTAIN CONSTITUTIONAL
CONCEPT THAT ISLAM IS "A" SOURCE. EMBASSY IS
CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT SALIM DOES NOT INTEND PERMIT
REVISION OF CONSTITUTION TO ALLAY AZHAR'S FEELINGS;
WE NOTE SALIM'S PLATFORM SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBES NATIONAL
UNITY AS BUILT NOT ONLY ON ALLIANCE OF WORKING FORCES
BUT ALSO ON "LOVE AND FRATERNITY BETWEEN THE TWO ELEMENTS
OF THE NATION, MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS."

B. SOCIALIST LIBERALS. (RIGHTIST). RAPPOREUR MURAD EMPHASIZED
PRIVATE SECTOR IN HIS PLATFORM (PRIVATE SECTOR MUST BE
ALLOWED COMPETE WITH PUBLIC SECTOR IN ANY INVESTMENT
FIELD), BUT ADMITTED NECESSITY "RECONSIDER WAGES AND
PRICES IN LIGHT HIGH COST OF LIVING." HE WANTS TO FREE
EGYPTIAN POUND "FROM MONETARY RESTRICTIONS." RECONSIDER
TAX SYSTEM, POSTPONE PAYMENT OF DEBTS OWED TO
"EASTERN AND WESTERN BLOCS," AND CONSOLIDATE PRIVATE
PROPERTY IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. PPOR MURAD, WHO MUST
AVOID ANATHEMA OF OBTAINING LABEL AS REP OF OLD
CAPITALIST CLASS WHILE STILL MAKING PLATFORM OF
HIS RIGHT-OF-CENTER GROUP CREDIBLE, LAMENTED WEAKLY
TO GUMHURIYYA THAT HE IS NOT RIGHTIST.

C. NATIONAL PROGRESSIVES (LEFTIST). RAPPOREUR KHALID
MUHI AL-DIN (COMMUNIST) HAS WRITTEN COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP OF
"CHIEF" TOOLS OF PRODUCTION, PROMOTION OF COOPERATIVE
MOVEMENT AND TRADE UNIONS, CONTROL OF BANKS AND
INSURANCE COMPANIES, FIRM OPPOSITION TO CONTROL OF
ECONOMY BY EGYPTIAN OR FOREIGN CAPITAL, AND
COMMITMENT TO WORLD STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM.
WALKING TIGHTROPE ON FOREIGN POLICY, LEFTIST GROUP
URGES POLICY SERVING STRATEGIC INTERESTS AND PROMOTION
OF RELATIONS WITH "AFRICA, EUROPE AND US." FRIENDSHIP
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WITH USSR IS, OF COURSE, "NECESSARY". IN INTERVIEW
KHALID INSISTED HE LEADS ALL NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE
FORCES INCLUDING MARXIST LEFT, CHRISTIAN PROGRESSIVES,
AND ISLAMIC SOCIALISTS. "NASSERISTS WILL FORM MAIN
FORCE OF OUR PROGRESSIVE GROUPING." PUBLIC SECTOR MUST
PLAY LEADING ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT. REPLYING TO COMMENT
THAT HE OBVIOUSLY OPPOSES OPEN DOOR, KHALID WEAKLY
REPLIED THAT OBTAINING NEW SOURCES OF FINANCE FROM

ABROAD IS OLD IDEA; REVOLUTION HAS ALWAYS SOUGHT SUCH
HELP FROM EAST AND WEST. AFTER SOME KIND WORDS ABOUT
US, WHICH MUST HAVE STUCK IN HIS GORGE, HE NOTED
DIVERSIFICATION OF ARMS NEED NOT TAKE PLACE AT
EXPENSE OF ONE OF OUR MAIN TRADITIONAL SOURCES.

2. WE ARE COMMENTING BY SEPTTEL ON THE SUCCESS OF
THE CENTRIST GROUP IN OBTAINING ADHERENTS AND MAJOR
DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE OTHER TWO ARE HAVING.
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